

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, Claims 1-12 and Claims 20-24 remain in the application, of which, claims 1, 5, 20, and 24 are independent.

Claims 13-19 and 25-31 are canceled, leaving only allowed claims 1-12 and 20-24 in the application.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention as defined by each of the present claims is patentable based on the Examiner's allowance of same.

No new matter has been added by the present amendment, since all of the pertinent subject matter was expressly or inherently disclosed in the original application. The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicant requests allowance of all the pending claims.

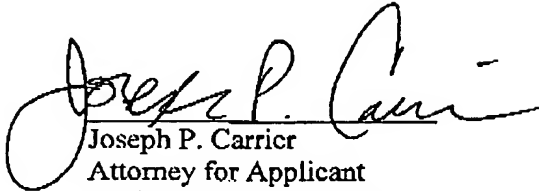
If the Examiner is not fully convinced of all of the claims now in the application, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner telephone applicant's undersigned representative to resolve any additional issues and expedite prosecution of the application.

Entry of the present Amendment-F is respectfully requested under 37 CFR 1.116 on the grounds that: the amendment does not raise any new issues for consideration by the Examiner, and moreover, the amendment is believed to place the application directly in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted, via facsimile, to Examining Group 3616 of the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 25, 2006, at the number (571) 273-8300.

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